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OPC and Fund finally make a deal

PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

Settlement of the differences between the OPC and the Correspondents' Fund marks a new beginning — a rebirth of our Club. This agreement will lift the overhanging shadow of immediate disaster. It provides sufficient funds to move, to reestablish ourselves, to begin the job of paying our creditors, and to redirect our destiny along the wide-ranging journalistic roads for which our Club was founded.

Important plans are in formation. The membership will be kept informed. With its support our Club will emerge triumphant.

Will Oursler, President

The Board of Governors voted last Monday night to approve the proposal by the Correspondent's Fund aimed at composing financial differences between the Club and the Fund. The proposal will have to be formally ratified by the Fund and approved by State authorities.

The vote was 10 Yeas, four Nays with three abstentions.

The tally came late in an evening marked by hours of searching questions, exhaustive (and exhausting) debate and, of course, copious rhetoric. President *Will Oursler* said that in his view the stipulations offered by the Fund were the last best hope of maintaining OPC as a viable organization with good

prospects for regeneration to its former healthy status. Treasurer *Len Saffir* was less sanguine. He maintained that the optimum bargain with the Fund had yet to be reached. Accepting an offer short of that, he said, could seriously endanger the future of the Club.

In sum, the Fund proposals include the following stipulations:

OPC agrees to surrender its lease on the premises at 54 West 40th St. and to drop its lawsuit against the Fund with prejudice. The Fund, in return, grants the Club a credit account of \$350,000, of which \$200,000 is already debited against the Club's unpaid back rent, taxes and other bills as of Jan. 1, 1971.

The Fund will lease the building to OPC on a month-to-month basis from Jan. 1, 1971. That period may be extended but not later than June 1 this year. Rent during this period will be at the same rate as previously, about \$6,600 per month. When the Club and its tenants have vacated the building, the Fund will pay the Club \$65,000 in cash to be debited against the existing \$150,000 credit. After sale of the building, conveyance of title and payment, the Fund will pay the Club in cash whatever remains of the credit. (For President Oursler's comment, see box above left.)

Club officials chide Dobrynin on anti-U.S. Moscow vandalism

The same day that vandals in Moscow smashed windshields and punctured tires of U.S. correspondents, OPC president *Will Oursler* and Freedom of the Press Committee chairman *Victor Riesel* sent the following nightletter to Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin in Washington:

In the interest of free open communications with concern that a cold war atmosphere would escalate we wire you our apprehensions of attacks on American foreign correspondents in Moscow. Retaliation which would punish newsmen and prevent them from carrying out their duties as correspondents is no answer to reprehensible and illegal attacks against Soviet agencies and diplomatic headquarters here. We seek your intervention in the interest of Free World Press to which 2400 members of our organization are dedicated. Could we discuss this?

The OPC message was sent following Sunday (Jan. 10) wire reports that the rear windshield and a side window of Newsweek correspondent Jay Axel-

bank's car were smashed and Washington Post correspondent Anthony Astrachan's four tires punctured. Both cars were parked on Moscow streets and, they said, would not have been readily recognized without the help of Soviet secret police. The day before, the front windshield of the car of AP's *Michael R. Johnson* was smashed under similar circumstances. When Mike looked inside the car, he found a note in Russian that said, "Watch out, snake, the next time will be worse."

Militant Jewish demonstrators harassed Tass offices in Washington in November and in New York a year ago. But the situation worsened appreciably when a bomb exploded outside the Soviet cultural building in Washington on Jan. 8 with an anonymous phone call announcing the act from a caller who voiced the "Never Again" slogan of the Jewish Defense League.

There had been no reply from Ambassador Dobrynin to the Oursler-Riesel telegram as this issue of the *Bulletin* went to press.

HOLD IT

Jazz fans will have to wait an extra week before vibrating their tympanic membranes with trumpet tempests from Bobby Hackett and Dizzy Gillespie, aided and abetted by Mary Lou Williams with Grady Tate on drums and George Duvivier on bass.

Time for the Twilight Jazz Concert is still 5:30, but the gig is now set for Sunday, January 31.

WORLD-WIDE TICKER

BRAZIL ARRESTS, EXPELS BUREAU CHIEF

By DENNIS REDMONT
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Francois Pelou, the bureau chief of Agence France Presse was expelled from Brazil recently for "activities contrary to national security," after a 27 hour interrogation and a thorough search of his office by political police.



Francois Pelou

It was the severest action Brazil has taken against a foreign journalist in the past decade, and one bound to shatter the already uneasy relationship between foreign correspondents and the government.

Pelou, 42, a former correspondent in New York and in Saigon, was hauled away from his downtown office by security officials at the height of the negotiations for the release of kidnaped Swiss ambassador Giovanni Bucher. He was told the division of political and social order (DOPS), or political police wanted him to "clarify the situation."

Authorities were upset at the fact that terrorists had delivered a ransom note to Agence France Presse, and that Pelou had not immediately reported to them, describing the carrier of the letter, which was signed by the Swiss ambassador. They also asked him to reveal his sources on Brazilian newspapers, how foreign newsmen were able to get hold of terrorist communiques (censored in the Brazilian press) and who were his colleagues responsible for passing the terrorist notes to other journalists.

Pelou's interrogation — by three political police teams — was interrupted by a search of his office. Police took him back downtown, and rifled his files for background material and copies of past communiques which Pelou kept as background.

Pelou told his colleagues that during his interrogation he was "pushed, threatened with a gun, and nearly choked by one of my questioners." Apart from this however, he was generally well treated and was asked to sign three statements to that effect. He spent the night in a five by six foot cell, on a mattress which he found soaked with sweat and spots of blood.

Pelou was released after strong pressure from the French Embassy, telegrams of protest from the Foreign Correspondents Association in Rio and its President Michael Field (Daily Telegraph), and a statement from Manuel Nascimento Brito, Director of Jornal do Brazil and President of the Inter American Press Association (IAPA).

Brito called Pelou's detention an attempt against "one of the most essential rights of the human person, the right to the freedom of expression. He said Pelou's detention and that of nine journalists from the weekly satirical "o Pasquim" two months ago "are facts which shock public opinion in all America."

Brito's cable was censored from the Brazilian press.

The day after Pelou was released, the foreign ministry issued a statement which revoked Pelou's credentials of foreign correspondent, and "expressing the Brazilian government's desire that he not remain in the country anymore". Pelou was told privately he had four days to leave.

"The information (gathered by police), combined with other data gathered by authorities," the government communique said, "led to the conclusion that Mr. Francois Pelou involved himself in activities contrary to national security, and therefore incompatible with his functions of foreign correspondent for which the Brazilian government granted — and will continue to grant — all the necessary facilities and privileges."

Pelou was told privately that the "other data" authorities were referring to were an interview he received through the mail from terrorist leader Carlos Lamarque, an interview with the late Urban guerilla leader Carlos Marighela, (which Pelou never got) later broadcast by Havana Radio, and an interview with Apolonio de Carvalho an exiled Brazilian terrorist, whom Pelou denies ever having met.

AFP's Daniel Sire has flown up from Montevideo to replace Pelou temporarily.

The Foreign Correspondents Club, of which Pelou was a vice-president, has sent a cable expressing "alarm and astonishment" over Pelou's expulsion, and has requested a meeting to discuss government policy toward foreign newsmen.

MEXICO CORRESPONDENTS' DISPUTE

By JAIME PLENN

MEXICO CITY — A series of resignations, the first evidence of discord in the 28-year history of the Foreign Correspondents' Association in Mexico, have followed a dispute over proxy validity after the recent elections here. (Cont'd. on pg. 3)

Ross's tales of the South Pacific

By RALPH LEVITON

Get to the South Pacific now — before the tour guides start saying, "Quick girls, take off the brassieres — here come the tourists!"

That's the advice vice-president Madeline D. Ross gave 40 vicarious travelers who came to hear her tell about her recent trip to the South Pacific. Madeline (for those of you who don't read the *Bulletin*) has just returned from a 31-day visit to 8 islands, covering 33,000 miles on 22 planes.

The signs of civilization are becoming disturbingly evident in New Guinea where some natives use face and body paint from Japan and Hong Kong rather than the home made variety, reports Madeline. And some of the ladies wear "made-in-Japan" brassieres.

Madeline called her talk "Details of the South Pacific" (with apologies to James Michener).

Americans are troubled by inflation; the dollar isn't worth what it used to be. So it is in Australia, New Zealand and mandated territories where the dollar is worth 88 cents, and on Fiji where the dollar is worth only 82 cents.

The OPC vice president was wearing a lei of shells (Tahitian style) and she described a hei — "not something you roll in; it's a crown of flowers." She also wore an orchid, symbolic of the beautiful flora found in the South Pacific.

Pidgin English is helpful in New Guinea and on Guadalcanal, according to Madeline. Her favorite term: "Su-su in brasbel." Su-su means milk; brasbel means hammock. Thus "su-su in brasbel" means brassiere.

Madeline found Guadalcanal very moving. She found old cartridges on the beach along with rusty LSTs. She was reminded of the U.S. troops who invaded the island during World War II, many of whom were killed. The island was pounded flat, Madeline recalls, but now all is peaceful.

Still, some of the natives recall the Americans with affection and reverence. This was pleasing.

Madeline was also impressed with Auckland, New Zealand, which has a beautiful marina and charming people. And the New Zealand dairy products are "out of this world," she says. "The milk is like our cream; and the cream — well, you can't pour it. But the ice cream, which is delicious, is only available in vanilla."

Well, you can't have everything. Even if you've had Hawaii, Pago Pago, Tahiti, New Zealand, Australia, New Guinea, Guadalcanal and Fiji.

NEW YORK SCENE

Thurs., Jan. 28 – Curtain Going Up – The Negro – Ossie Davis, well known actor-director, will discuss the role(s) of blacks in the American theater. Cocktails at 6:30, Dinner at 7:00. \$6.50. Reservations are required.

* * *

Sun., Jan. 31 – Twilight Jazz Concert 5:30 PM (See box page 1).

Letters

MEMBERSHIP

About 20 years ago, when I first became involved with journalism, there seemed to me no doubt that the very cream of the field was represented by that special breed – the foreign correspondents. Venturesome, self-reliant, intelligent and well informed, they seemed to me to be for journalism what Lawrence of Arabia was for the British army. Allowing for the jaundiced reservations characteristic of middle age, I still feel that way about correspondents. I still feel that ours is an eminently happier life than that of the bank president, the public relations man, or even the city room editor.

There are not many who feel as I do, judging from the statistics. It seems that there are no more than 1,000 correspondents working for United States media anywhere in the world, and many of these are non-American.

There is an element of exclusivity or snobbism, if you will, in any professional society. When this is lost, the character of the society is so diluted as to be unrecognizable. Unfortunately, the participation of most correspondents in the OPC results from a common fondness for booze, food and good fellowship, but not because of business acumen of any general sense of how to make a big club operate.

Those with managerial skills (and money) inevitably become the front-runners for a big club, and we, the theoretical reason for the existence of the club in the first place, become alienated. There may never be any way around this.

All the same, I would favor the most restrictive membership requirements possible – far tighter than what we now have. The founding era, the days of the Sixth Avenue bar, seem to me to have been a good period – perhaps the best period – in OPC history. I was not there, and I wish something of that old spirit could be revived for those who, like myself, are and will remain foreign correspondents.

Malcolm Browne

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Ed. Note: This letter was mailed Nov. 20 and fell into a crack whence it was fished in time for pre-vote publication.

ANOTHER CHEER

I must object seriously to "A DECLARATION" in praise of the "current Club administration headed by President Will Oursler" as published in the bulletin of Nov. 14. Who the devil do those succinct 45 signatories think they are, anyway? I object because I wasn't one of the fortuitous 45 and I know several more like me who missed that excellent boat but wish they could now climb aboard. Actually, words are inadequate for the stupendous job Will and his people are doing, not just in efforts! Thanks to Oursler's Outfit we still have an OPC.

M.D. Morris

OUR NEW LOOK

Beginning on page 1 of our last issue (Jan. 2) readers may have noticed heads with a "down" look, uppercase type being used only for the initial word and proper nouns. You see more of same in this issue, in line with the new (May 1, '70) Publications Committee's resolve to modernize the look of the *Bulletin*. Also, ex-Herald Trib science reporter Joe Hixson has joined up as managing editor. Send all gripes to him. His only comment: "Keep those cards and letters coming, folks." News story deadline remains Monday AM's before issue date, but the earlier the better.

SOLA BASIC INDUSTRIES

manufactures a variety of products for the distribution, control and use of electric power. To concentrate on these products, Sola Basic in 1965 sold off a 98-year-old malt-and-grain business whose annual volume was \$30,000,000. In less than two years, this volume has been regained in electrical-electronic products. An increasing portion of Sola's growth is coming from overseas markets.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEXICAN DISPUTE

(Cont'd from page 2)

Charles Green (U.S.), bureau chief for AP said that he is resigning and withdrawing recognition on behalf of the wire service. His staff members have either resigned or indicated they plan to.

All seven members with Vision magazine have made known similar intentions, and the latest directory of the group does not list any member from UPI nor The New York Times. Time magazine and Los Angeles Times correspondents have also said they do not plan to pay their 1970 dues.

The brou-ha-ha involves two proxies Kevin Kelleghan (U.S.), stringer for the New York Daily News, Fairchild Publications and AP, and candidate for the Association presidency, charged were voted illegally. The two votes gave the election to Jose Quiroga (Bolivia), correspondent for O Estado do Brazil, Sao Paulo.

Kelleghan's resignation letter pointed to several alleged irregularities in the election procedures under the chairmanship of outgoing president Carlos Viseras (Spain) of the Franco government's official news agency.

The letter from AP's Green said he no longer regards the Association as serving the purpose for which it was established



Bulletin Chairman: Harry Welker, Jr.

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Advance payment must accompany classified advertising, at 50 cents per 40-space line. No phone orders. Commercial and display rates on request.

PEOPLE & PLACES

By BETTY ETTER

ON THE GO: **Ben Wright**, with his wife, daughter and son-in-law, spent the holidays on safari in Kenya and Tanzania. They shot little but photographed much... **Ernie Kehr** sends greetings from Ceylon, almost at the end of a world trip... **Robert S. Kane, Harrison Forman and Hester Hensell** back from African jaunts... **Richard M. Barr** and wife off to the Pacific for an on-the-spot investigation of such things as the Hawaiian poi monopoly and research into the customs of beachcombers on the Sandwich Islands... **De Witt S. Davidson** to St. Thomas to attend the January 4 inauguration of **Melvin Herbert Evans** as governor and **David Earle Maas** as lieutenant governor. He escorted a press-TV/radio contingent covering the event... **Ben Gross** back from Portugal, where he delivered a lecture on the history of broadcasting before the American Club of Lisbon. Gross was the only TV columnist invited to attend President Nixon's VIP Christmas party at the White House... **Anita and Hal Berke** off January 16 on the QE2 for a Caribbean cruise.

NEW POSTS: **Al Wall**, formerly of Newsweek and International Medical Press, appointed assistant managing editor of Medical Tribune, an independent weekly newspaper for the medical profession... **David R. George**, Newsday promotion manager for the last 10 years, has been upped to director of p.r. for the Long Island paper.

ARTICLES: "Medicare: How It Affects You and Your Family" by **Frances Kish** in Lady's Circle for February... **Jack Harrison Pollack's** "I Want Out," a nationwide study of teenage suicides, featured in January Today's Health... Holiday issue of Cue featured "A Lifetime of Music; a Life of Love," the story of **Richard and Dorothy Rodgers**, by **Mary Tanenbaum**.

BOOKS: **W. Averell Harriman's** "America and Russia in a Changing World: A Half Century of Personal Observation" out via Doubleday... **Alvin M. Josephy Jr.'s** new book, "Red Power: The American Indians' Fight for Freedom," to be published this spring by American Heritage Press. An article, "Protect Indian Rights," by Josephy was recently published in Vol. I, No. 1 of the NCIO News of the National Council on Indian Opportunity, which is headed by Vice-president Agnew... A German edition of "The Great Merchants" by **Tom Mahoney** and **Leonard Sloane** just published in German by Econ Verlag of Dusseldorf under the title "Grosse Kaufleute von

Tiffany bis Woolworth." Harper & Row published in the U.S.... Volume I No. 1 of International Wildlife edited by **John L. Stroh**.

RADIO & TV: **Hugh Downes** questioned **Ruth Gruber** on Today, Dec. 29, anent the fate and motivations of Soviet Jews trying to emigrate to Israel. The coast-to-coast hookup promptly produced lecture invitations for Montreal and Los Angeles.

SPEAKERS: **Craig Fisher** joined AAAS scientists in Chicago to speak on the Aleutian ecology, show excerpts from three of his NBC documentary films, *The First Americans*, *Survival on the Prairies* and *The Great Barrier Reef*. Craig's now working on a film on the ecosystem of the Everglades.

MARRIED: **Jay Nelson Tuck** to the former **Lynne Weiser**. He is a national correspondent for Medical World News and she was a member of that magazine's Washington bureau. They are living in N.Y.

BULLETIN FROM TUCSON: **Inez Robb** has been lured back into print in the Arizona Daily Star. She says apologetically it will be only a once-weekly effort. "At the moment, it all sounds so leisurely. Nothing immoral, illegal or fattening about it." On the personal side, **Inez** says she and her husband love Arizona, are busy helping various boards and foundations. "And it is great to be a feisty Democrat in this state... a Republican doesn't have half so much fun."

FLYING: Past president **Will Yolen** will be conducting National Kite Flyoff at the Sand Castle in Sarasota, Fla., this week. He'll also defend his title as international champion of the small-scale soaring enthusiasts.

ECOLOGY: The Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies and the Anderson Foundation have joined in funding a new International Institute for Environmental Affairs and have named **Jack Raymond** as its first president. Jack, a Times correspondent for 25 years, is leaving his post as president of Thomas J. Deegan Co., New York.

Classified

TYPIST experienced available for home work. 75¢ per page under 15 pages, 60¢ over 15 pages. Lillian Waller 261-9313. #344 Placement Committee.

OFFICE private for rent in photo agency. West 55th near 7th Ave. Phone available. Air Cond. Light & airy, ideal for art dir. writer or PR. Reasonable rent. Lease to Sept. '71 with opt renewal. Chas. Rotkin PL 7-9255. #345 Placement Committee.

JUMP FOR SPACE (AND AVIATION)

The Aviation/Space Writers Association invites OPCers who have covered aerospace, aviation or air transportation during 1970 to submit their work in the Assn.'s writing awards competition. Work in categories covering newspapers of 200,000 and over circulation, newspapers under that figure, aviation/space magazines, television and radio, photography and books (non-fiction) is eligible. Separate awards for each category — one for aviation, one for space — are given.

Deadline for entries is Feb. 1, 1971. Each award winner will receive a \$100 prize and an engraved scroll and will, in addition, become eligible for three other major awards:

The James J. Strebiger Memorial Award for aviation writing or reporting in any media (bronze plaque and \$500), sponsored by Fairchild Hiller Corp.

The Robert S. Ball Memorial Award for space writing or reporting in any media (trophy model of Redstone-Mercury launch system and \$500), sponsored by the Chrysler Corp.

The Edward S. Osborn Award for writing or reporting in any media on general aviation (trophy and \$500), sponsored by the EDO Corp.

The awards are open to non-members as well as members of AWA and OPC.

Soprano night

Soprano **Leona Gordon** proved that a fine voice and a beautiful face and figure aren't incompatible in her recital of classical and modern works at Music Night on Jan. 11.

Accompanied by **David Garvey** at the piano, and sometimes by **Joseph Rabbai**, clarinet, and

Marsha Heller, oboe, the blonde Californian performed two operatic arias by Handel, a selection of lieder by Schumann and Schubert, a poem of Emily Dickinson set to music by Aaron Copland, and songs and an aria by Benjamin Britten. She concluded her varied program with selections from Songs of the Auvergne by Canteloube.

Music nighters could well understand why Miss Gordon has appeared on television as well as with the nationally known Los Angeles and San Francisco operas. Music committee chairman **Jack Frummer** presided.



Leona Gordon